

Reference was made to the delay in the verification of pension claims. Recently, a circular has been issued that all pension claims should be settled within one month after the date of retirement. I have an idea of going still further and of asking the heads of departments to take up the verification of pension claims even six months before an officer is due to retire in the ordinary course, so that he may get his pension even in the very month in which he retires.

Chairman : Is there not a rule like that now ?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengasvami Aiyar : No ; on the other hand there seems to be an impression among the officers that, under the T. S. R., they are precluded from submitting pension papers six months before retirement is due. The rule that I have in view is in force in British India ; and I want to introduce it here also.

Chairman : Is there not a rule even now that the liabilities of an officer should be ascertained six months before his retirement is due ?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengasvami Aiyar : That is only with regard to Savings Banks Deposits made by clerks and other officers who have deposited money with the Government as security and whose security deposits have to be returned when they retire. There is no such rule in regard to pensions.

It was suggested by one honourable member that capable officers alone should be deputed for outside audit. At present, Sir, the Account Officer himself is supervising outside audit, so that, the Government have deputed in the past the highest officer possible for this work.

As regards the departmental test for the staff of the Account Office, I may inform the House that, for recruitment to the Account Office, one need not have passed that test ; that is based on general qualifications. And, hereafter, such initial recruitment, to the Account Office also as in the case of other departments, will be made by the Public Service Commissioner. The departmental test has to be passed only a few years after one is appointed as a member of the staff of the office. (*Presidents Bell.*)

The motion that Demand XIV—Financial Secretariat and Account Office for Rs. 1,90,694 be passed was put to the vote of the House and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XV.—LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 67,500, under Demand XV—Legislative Bodies.

Mr. M. N. Narayana Menon : സർ, ഈ കൌൺസിലിൽ പാസാക്കുന്ന പ്രമേയങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി എന്തു നടപടിയാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻറ് നടത്തുന്നതെന്നു ഞങ്ങൾക്കു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ ഒരു വഴിയുണ്ടില്ല. മൈസൂരിൽ അങ്ങിനെ പാസാക്കുന്ന പ്രമേയങ്ങളിന്മേൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് നടത്തുന്ന നടപടി പ്രൊസിഡിംഗ്സായി ഗസറ്റിൽ ചരമ്പുപ്പെടുത്താറുണ്ട്. ഞങ്ങൾ പാസാക്കി അയക്കുന്ന പ്രമേയങ്ങളെ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് എന്തു ചെയ്യും? ചവറുക്കട്ടയിൽ തള്ളിയോ അതോ അലമാരിയിലുണ്ടോ എന്നു ഞങ്ങളെ അറിയിക്കേണ്ട ചുമതല ഗവണ്മെൻറിനില്ലേ എന്നു ഞാൻ ചോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു? അതുകൊണ്ട് ഓരോ വർഷത്തിലും പാസാക്കുന്ന നിശ്ചയങ്ങളിൽ ഗവർണ്മെൻറ് നടത്തുന്ന നടപടി ആണ്ടുവസാനത്തിൽ നിയമസഭാ പ്രൊസിഡിംഗ്സിലോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഗസറ്റിലോ പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടതത്രാവശ്യമാണ്.

പ്രൊസിഡിംഗ്സ് തന്നെ ഞങ്ങൾക്കു കിട്ടുന്നതു വളരെ താമസിപ്പാണ്ട്. ൧൧൦-ലെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറൽ ഭരണറിപ്പോർട്ട് ൧൧൧ ക്ലർക്കമാസത്തിൽ ഞങ്ങൾ ഇവിടെ വന്നു നിരൂപണം നടത്തേണ്ട അവസരത്തിൽ പോലും എല്ലാം കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. മുമ്പു ശ്രീമലം പ്രജാസഭ നടന്നുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന കാലത്ത് ഭരണറിപ്പോർട്ട് കമ്മിറ്റിയിൽ ഞങ്ങൾ ഇവിടെ വരുന്നതിനുമുമ്പു തന്നെ കിട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നു. ഇതിൽ ഗവർണ്മെൻറ് കൂടുതൽ ജാഗ്രത കാണിച്ചാൽകൊള്ളാം.

Mr. M.P. Madhavan Pillai (Tiruvalla cum Pattanamtitta): സർ, തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഇപ്പോൾണ്ടു നിയമസമിതികൾ നടന്നുവരുന്നുണ്ട്. അവയ്ക്ക് ൩൭, ൪൦൦ രൂപാ ചിലവാകുന്നു എന്നു കണക്കുകൊണ്ടു കാണുന്നു. ഇത്രത്തോളം വലിയ സംഖ്യ ചിലവാക്കിയിട്ടും അതുകൊണ്ടു എന്തെങ്കിലും പ്രയോജനമുള്ളതായി ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ജനപ്രതിനിധികൾ ഇവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്ന എല്ലാ കാര്യങ്ങളെയും ഇവിടെ പാസാക്കുന്ന പ്രമേയങ്ങളെയും ഗവർണ്മെൻറ് വിഗണിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഈ നിലയ്ക്കാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ പ്രവൃത്തിയെങ്കിൽ ഇതിലേക്കായി ഒരു വമ്പിച്ച തുക ചിലവാക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. ജനപക്ഷത്തുനിന്നും പലേ അവസരങ്ങളിലും വമ്പിച്ച ശമ്പളച്ചിലവ് വെട്ടിക്കുറയ്ക്കണമെന്നും, ആഡംബരത്തിനായുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ നിറുത്തൽ ചെയ്യണമെന്നും ഈ സഭയിൽ പ്രസ്താവിക്കാറുണ്ട്. ഗവണ്മെൻറ് അതിനു വിപരീതമായ നിലയിൽ പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ഭക്തിപൂർവ്വം സേവിച്ചു മാതൃകാ ഗവണ്മെന്റാക്കുവാൻ അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നതായാ നാട്ടുകാരെ അവർക്കു അനുപത്തിയഞ്ചു പയസ്സുതിക

ഞു എന്നുള്ള കാരണത്തിലേക്ക് സർവീസിൽനിന്നും പീരിയഡിക്കുകയും അതേ സമയംതന്നെ പ്രായമായവരേയും നല്ല ആശുപത്രിയിലാക്കത്തക്കവരെയും വിദേശങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും വരുത്തി ഇവിടെ പ്രതിഷ്ഠിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു.

Chairman: നിയമസഭക്കുള്ള 'ഭാവലിംഗ്' അലയൻസാണ് ഇവിടെ ആലോചനാവിഷയം. അതിൽ ഈ കാര്യങ്ങളൊന്നും പറയുവാൻ പാടില്ല.

Mr. M. P. Madhavan Pillai: ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു വമ്പിച്ച തുക ചിലവാക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് യാതൊരു പ്രയോജനവുമില്ല. ജനപക്ഷത്തുനിന്നും കൊണ്ടുവരുന്ന സംഗതികൾക്കു വിപരീതമായിട്ടാണ് ഗവൺമെൻറ് പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നത്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു തുക ചിലവാക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല എന്നു കാണിക്കുവാൻ വേണ്ടിയാണ് ഞാൻ ഇതു പറയുന്നത്.

വിദേശികളായ ആളുകളെ ഇവിടെ വിളിച്ചുവരുത്തി ഭീമമായ ശമ്പളം കൊടുത്തുവരുന്നു.

Chairman: ഈ ഡിമാൻഡിന്നു അതിന്നു തമ്മിലുള്ള സംബന്ധമെന്താണ്?

Mr. M. P. Madhavan Pillai: നിയമസമിതികൾക്കൊണ്ട് പ്രയോജനമില്ലെന്നുള്ളതു കാണിക്കുവാനായി ഞാൻ എടുത്തുപറയുന്ന ഉദാഹരണങ്ങളാണ് അവ.

Chairman: വേറെ വല്ല പായിൻറമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ പറയണം.

Mr. M. P. Madhavan Pillai: നിയമസമിതികൾ പാസാക്കുന്നതായ പ്രമേയങ്ങളെല്ലാം അതേനിലയിൽതന്നെ സ്വീകരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സമ്പന്നസ്സു ഗവൺമെൻറിനുണ്ടാകുന്നതുവരെ ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു വമ്പിച്ച തുക ഇവിടെയ്ക്കായി ചിലവാക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ചെങ്കനാലും പട്ടാളവും, തോക്കുമുള്ളപ്പോൾ ഏതു നിലയിലും തിരുവിതാംകൂർ രാജ്യഭരണം നടത്തിക്കൊള്ളാമെന്നുള്ളതാണ് ഗവൺമെൻറിന്റെ നയമെങ്കിൽ ഈ ജനപ്രതിനിധികളെ ഇവിടെവരുത്തി അവരെക്കൂടി സാക്ഷിനിർത്തിപ്പോണം ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള തോന്നുസങ്ങൾ കാണിക്കുവാൻ? ജനങ്ങൾ പ്രതിനിധികളെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുത്തയക്കുന്നത് അവസരവാദശ്രമമുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങളെ ഗവൺമെൻറിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നു വേണ്ട സഹായസഹകരണങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനാണ്. ജനപ്രതിനിധികളാവശ്യപ്പെടുന്ന സംഗതികളൊന്നും

[Mr. M. P. Madhavan Pillai.]

തന്നെ ഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ ട്രഷറിയിൽ പെടുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഈ സഭയെ പരിചരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുപോകേണ്ട വല്ല ആവശ്യവുമുണ്ടോ? ഇതു ജനപ്രതിനിധികളുടെമേൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു അവിശ്വാസം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനും പറ്റാത്ത മല്ലേ. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഒരുവിശ്വാസത്തിന് ഗവൺമെന്റ് ഒരിക്കലും കാരണമാകരുത്.

Mr. K. N. Kesavan Namputiripad (Jenmis): Sir, I wish to make a few suggestions for the improvement of the Legislative Library. The Legislative Library possesses only a few good books on politics and law. The library should get down up-to-date standard books on such subjects. In the selection of books also the authorities do not show any discrimination. For example, the Autobiography of Jawaharlal Nehru which is considered to be an ornament to any library has been refused to the library even though many members had suggested that book.

Chairman: Is that book available in the Public Library?

Mr. K. N. Kesavan Namputiripad: I believe so. Many of the public libraries in other parts possess it. Though the Government get a number of copies of all the newspapers, only very few newspapers are placed in the library. Therefore, I suggest that a copy of all the newspapers which are now got down by Government should be placed in the Legislative Library. These are the suggestions that I wanted to make.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: I should also like to add a word to what Mr. Kesavan Namputiripad has said, that is about the Legislative Library. The treatment that the Government accord to the Legislative Library is very scanty. From the budget it will be seen that while Rs. 2,000 was sanctioned last year for the purchase of books, now it has come down to Rs. 1,800. Sir, I would have congratulated the Government if they had increased this amount. Probably, I am afraid that the Government do not wish to give us powder. They feel that if more books are purchased, we will give them some rounds.

Again, Sir, what we find is that last year the whole of the budgeted amount has not been spent.

Mr. K. Madhavan Pillai (Trivandrum): How many books did the member recommend to be purchased?

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: I do not think, Sir, I possess the qualification to prescribe books to be purchased for the Library. What I say is that the amount that is sanctioned is meagre and even that amount is not wholly spent. I would request in all humility that members like Dr. Madhavan Pillai who is much older would kindly prescribe books.

Mr. K. Madhavan Pillai : Will not the younger generation complain against it ?

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : If the younger generation complains the elder generation should bear the same.

Sir, this is the last opportunity for us in this Council to place on record our appreciation of the work that the Legislative Section has been doing and of the very courteous and accommodative manner with which the Secretary has been dealing with the members. I am very glad to place on record our appreciation. I have also to say one word. We all know the amount of strain necessitated for the Shorthand reporters to report our speeches for the last one month without break. I might say that the reports they give us are very accurate and I would also recommend that Government should favourably consider their case.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai : Sir, I wish to draw the attention of Government to one or two important points. The first is with regard to the answering of interpellations. It seems to me that the policy of Government is to evade answering inconvenient questions. I will state one or two of my own personal experiences. I have been asking a series of questions about the capital expenditure of the Kodayar scheme and this is the sixth or seventh time I have repeated the question. I have been very prompt in sending that question. All the questions that I have sent along with it have appeared along with answers. But that question alone has not yet been answered. Therefore, I want an answer from the Chief Secretary why such questions have not come up for answering.

Another point on which I wish to draw the attention of Government is that they are not taking the Legislative Bodies into their confidence. This morning a series of questions were asked about granting of remission for lands left fallow during Kanni 1111; whether we will be given remission or not for the lands left uncultivated. When we asked what was the report on the matter, the answer was that the report was confidential. What is there in it for keeping it confidential, I am at a loss to understand.

Another point which I want to bring to the notice of Government is that they are not very careful about the answers they give us. When I asked the official member what was the order passed on the report, he said that there was no order denying or refusing *tarisu* remission. Even when I referred to the Proceedings of Government dated the 23rd May 1936, the answer was there was no order refusing expressly any remission for lands left fallow. That is the nature of the answers we are being supplied with. There are numerous other instances, but I do not exactly remember all those, in which official members answering the members on this side of the House do not take particular care to give the correct answers. With these few remarks I support the motion.

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : Sir, I thought the questions relating to General Administration were all over when the grant for General Administration was passed. But I see that some of my honourable friends have taken this opportunity also to speak on questions of policy relating to General Administration. I shall try to answer a few of them, Sir.

The honourable members have got a serious complaint against Government. It is a complaint which we have heard not only in this House but in the other House also, namely, that the wishes of the Houses are not respected and the resolutions passed by them not given effect to by Government. My friend Mr. Narayana Menon said that in olden days, during the time of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, reports of the proceedings of the previous Assembly used to be printed and supplied to the members showing what action had been taken on the various representations and that now the honourable members have no chance of knowing what the Government do or what action they take on the various resolutions passed by this House. Well, Sir, I have mentioned in the course of the demand for General Administration that Government, as far as possible, carry out the resolutions passed by this House. It may be that they are not able to carry out all the resolutions. If that is done, the administration may have to come to a stand-still. If all the demands made by the House are granted by the Government, if all its recommendations are accepted—I do not attribute any motive to the honourable members, they represent the needs of their constituencies; they are bound to do so and are fully justified in doing so—the only difficulty will be that it will not be possible for the Government to carry on the administration. But some resolutions they have accepted and given effect to. I mentioned in the lower House two or three such resolutions. When the House recommended a remission of 50 per cent. of the land tax Government accepted the recommendation at least partially and sanctioned a remission of 12 per cent. 18½ and even 25 per cent. sometimes. I am only sorry that such things which Government do are not mentioned or are forgotten and that the other side of the picture alone is placed before the House. Government do not want to flout the opinion of the House. But they must see that the administration is carried on as efficiently and satisfactorily as possible.

Then, Sir, Mr. Narayana Menon referred to the delay in the publication of the Administration Reports and the proceedings of this House. He said that before the meeting of the old Sri Mulam Popular Assembly commenced the Administration Reports were in the hands of the members. He is not correct, Sir. Only the State Administration Report was placed in the hands of the members, and by a special order, the Report of the Agricultural Department wa

also published before Kumbham in those days. All the other departmental reports used to be published only by Edavam.

There is pressure of work in the Government Press and the Superintendent may ask for additional hands and machinery. If we are prepared to spend more money it will be possible to have these reports printed earlier. But after all, are the honourable members in any way prejudiced by the so-called delay in the publication of these reports? All the reports are placed in their hands well before the commencement of the Budget Session of the Legislature and this ought to suffice for their purpose.

In regard to the Proceedings of the Council, there used to be some delay in publishing them. But now they are being published as expeditiously as possible. The report of the last Session was issued some time back. Government are doing all that is possible to expedite the printing and publication of these proceedings.

Some honourable members have complained about the Legislative Library. One complaint is that Government are not purchasing all sorts of books. Mr. Namputiripad has said that the Autobiography of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has not been purchased. Government did not purchase it not because it was the autobiography of Jawaharlal Nehru but because *usually* autobiographies are not purchased for the Legislative Library. Only books on politics, constitution and similar subjects are generally purchased. The member can get a copy of Pandit Nehru's autobiography from the Public Library.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I correct him and say that the Library contains the Autobiographies of Hindenburg and others?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I said that *usually* such books are not purchased.

Mr. Namputiripad has also said that all newspapers are not being placed in the Legislative Library. I may say, Sir, that it is only a library and not a reading room. There is a reading room in the Public Library and all papers, Indian and Foreign, are available there. They are available to any one who pays a subscription of four annas per mensem.

Mr. Piraviperumal Pillai has complained about the inadequacy of the allotment for the purchase of books and said that even the small allotment provided in the budget is not being fully utilised. We are trying to spend all the money that is available. We get catalogues of books from Firms, select useful books from them and purchase them. If honourable members make suggestions Government will certainly consider them and purchase the books they recommend as far as possible. It is not possible to make the

[Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

Legislative Library as big as the Public Library. The books wanted in the Legislative Library are those on constitution, politics, and allied subjects and we are doing our best to purchase such books within the funds allotted.

Mr. Arumukham Pillai has a complaint against the Government with regard to the answering of interpellations. He has referred to a question about capital expenditure on the Kodayar Project and said that Government have not answered it because it is an inconvenient question. I do not see where the inconvenience lies. It is only asking for information of the amount spent on the Project. I will enquire into the matter and see why it has not yet been answered. It must have got stuck up somewhere, either in the Secretariat, or in the Chief Engineer's Office.

Mr. Arumukham Pillai has also referred to the Government order on the remission of land tax. He seems to think that the answers given to his questions on this subject this morning were not correct. Government take all possible care to see that the answers are correct. But sometimes there may be mistakes. After all we are human beings, and to err is human. We might have erred in some respects, but we do not do so intentionally. What the official member said in regard to remission of tax on fallow lands was correct. The member asked the question whether Government refused to grant remissions in respect of fallow lands and the official member said "No" because as per the G. O. already issued Government have sanctioned a remission of $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on certain lands including those that were left fallow. The question of complete remission of tax on fallow lands was however not considered at the time the G. O. was issued.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai: May I ask the member whether in the order referred to there was this sentence, "that this disposes of the question of *tharisu* remissions also"?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I have not got that G. O. with me. The question of full remission of tax on *tharisu* lands was not considered at the time when the G. O. was issued. But the G. O. made it clear that the remission of $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. applied to *tharisu* lands also. The question of complete remission came up to Government subsequently and is now engaging their attention. I can assure the honourable members that the Government do not want to flout the opinion of the House. They are trying to do their best to meet the wishes of the House and will continue to do all that is possible in this direction.

The motion that Demand XV—Legislative—Bodies—for Rs. 67,500 be passed was put to the vote of the House and carried. The grant was made.